

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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March 12, 2013

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From:

To:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE ON SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE APPROVAL OF GUN VIOLENCE LEGISLATION

On March 12, 2013, the Senate Judiciary Committee approved two bills which are aimed at controlling gun violence.

S. 374 (Schumer, D-NY): Protecting Responsible Gun Sellers Act of 2013

The Committee approved S. 374, which seeks to strengthen background checks on the sale of firearms, on a 10 to 8 party-line vote. This bill is a "placeholder" bill, which consists of findings and does not specify how current laws relating to gun background checks would be amended. Senator Schumer, its sponsor, has been negotiating with moderate Democrats and Republicans in an attempt to develop legislative language that could pass the Senate.

S. 146 (Boxer, D-CA) School Safety Enhancements Act of 2013

The Committee approved S. 146, which would reauthorize funding for grants aimed at improving school safety and preventing violence in schools, on a 14 to 4 vote. The bill would authorize \$40 million a year in Federal Fiscal Years 2014 through 2023, subject to available annual appropriations, for the existing Community Oriented Policing

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Services (COPS) Secure Our Schools Program. Before approving the bill, the Committee agreed, without objection, to a substitute amendment which reduced the program's annual authorization level from \$100 million to \$40 million in order to secure more bipartisan support. Congress has not appropriated any funds for the COPS Secure Our Schools Program in recent years.

The Senate Judiciary Committee postponed action on S. 150, the Assault Weapons Ban of 2013, until March 14, 2013 because Senator Feinstein, its sponsor, was unable to attend today's mark-up.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA MR:MT:ma

c: All Department Heads Legislative Strategist